

U.S. Application Serial No. 09/606,445

REMARKS

The present amendment is in response to the Official Action dated January 28, 2004, wherein the Examiner rejected pending claims 1, 3, 4, and 6, as being unpatentable over Tay et al., US Patent No. 5,563,615, in view of Wallace et al., US Patent No. 5,835,065, and rejected claims 2 and 8, as being unpatentable over Tay et al., '615, and Wallace et al., '065, in further view of applicants' description. The applicants note with appreciation, the indication by the Examiner that claims 5, 7, 10-16 contains allowable subject matter.

In formulating the present rejection, the Examiner apparently acknowledges that Tay et al., '615, fails to make known each and every feature of the claims. More specifically, the Examiner expressly acknowledges that Tay et al., '615, does not specifically teach the grounded helical antenna surrounding the multi-band antenna. The Examiner then attempts to assert that such a feature is well known, as evidenced by Wallace et al., '065, which the Examiner alleges teaches the same. However, contrary to the Examiner's assertions, Wallace et al., '065, fails to teach or suggest the aspects of the presently pending claims, which were acknowledged as being absent from the previously cited references. More specifically, Wallace et al., '065, fails to teach or suggest a grounded helical antenna. In Wallace et al., '065, the helical antenna is selectively coupled to a source of RF signals. However no passage in the reference can be found where the helical antenna is said to be grounded. Furthermore, Wallace et al., '065, fails to teach or suggest a helical antenna, which surrounds a multi-band antenna. Consequently, not only does Wallace et al., '065, fail to make known or obvious the element, that is acknowledged as being absent from the teachings of the principal reference, but there is no teaching to combine the two references in a manner which would make known or obvious the claims of the present application.

Relative to claims 4 and 6, which includes a distance between at least some adjacent turns of the grounded helical antenna, which are different and/or vary along the linear axis, the same can not be said to be made known or obvious in Tay et al., '615, as suggested by the Examiner. While the Examiner identifies two different sets of dimensioning associated with the disclosed antenna, which are provided in tables 1 and 2, the different sets of dimensions are separately associated with corresponding separate antennas, which are directed to operating at different

U.S. Application Serial No. 09/606,445

frequencies of interest (one of which operates in the middle of the VHF band and another one which operates in the middle of the UHF band). In other words, to the extent that each of the tables contain dimensions that are different, the dimensions associated with the distance between adjacent turns are not identified as varying along the linear axis within the context of the same single multi-band antenna apparatus. Consequently, the Examiner has misapplied the reference, in suggesting the same makes known either claim 4 or 6.

To the extent that claims 2 and 8 are dependent upon claims 1, 3, 4 and 6, for at least the same reasons noted above, they are similarly not made known or obvious by Tay et al., '615, either separately or in view of Wallace et al., '065.

The claims, as presently presented, are allowable over the prior art of record, for the reasons noted above. Consequently, allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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